

**Speech-Language Pathology Training Program**  
**1 Year Clinical Fellowships 2016-2017**  
**VA Portland Health Care System**  
**Portland, Oregon**

The training program is funded by VHA Office of Academic Affiliations. These fellowships are available only for US citizens.

Clinical Fellows complete the following four, 3 month, rotations with three separate mentors (not necessarily in the order listed). Although there is some overlap in training, each of the first three rotations provides a primary area of emphasis. Students are provided with required readings on advanced topics and attend various colloquia, symposiums and seminars.

We provide training in a) fluoroscopic evaluation of swallowing and FEES, b) evaluation of voice with the use of the Kay voice analysis system, direct and fiberoptic laryngoscopy, and stroboscopy, c) evaluation and treatment for the use of trachea-esophageal speaking valves, d) evaluation of speech, language, and cognition, and e) evaluation and implementation of AAC devices and cognitive prosthetics

We require each CFY to develop and present a presentation on a topic of their choice, either to our internal staff, or to one of the interdisciplinary teams. Observation, didactic teaching, and supervision are provided throughout each rotation with the goal of progressively weaning the student toward independence. In addition to daily ongoing feedback, each student meets with their mentor weekly to discuss the student's progress along with any other issues of concern.

- Rotation 1: ENT-including Head & Neck Surgery (SICU) and the Outpatient Voice Clinic; Outpatient Dysphagia Clinic 1; General Medicine Teams 1-5; Medical/Surgical Intensive Care Unit; Outpatient Speech-Language Clinic 1
  - Primary emphasis of training: Evaluation and treatment of voice, speech, and swallowing impairments, in particular for individuals with head and neck cancer.
- Rotation 2: General Medicine Teams 1-5; Neurology; Psychiatry; Surgical Intensive Care Unit-excluding Head and Neck Cancer; Aphasia Treatment; Outpatient Cognitive Rehabilitation, Outpatient Speech-Language Clinic 2 ; Outpatient Dysphagia Clinic 2
  - Primary emphasis of training: Evaluation and treatment of acute cognitive or linguistic impairment. Outpatient Cognitive Rehabilitation, including polytrauma.
- Rotation 3: Community Living Center, Vancouver Campus. This includes the Comprehensive Rehabilitation Unit, Skilled Nursing Care Unit, ILng-term care, Hospice and Palliative care; Outpatient Cognitive Rehabilitation, including Polytrauma.
  - Primary emphasis of training: Evaluation and treatment of speech, linguistic, or cognitive impairment for both inpatient and outpatient clinics.
- Rotation 4: Each fellow will spend one month at each of the first three rotation sites.
  - Primary emphasis of training: This is a final rotation in which the clinical fellows are expected to function with minimal supervision.

The application deadline is December 18, 2015, and the start date is early October, 2016.

Any students interested in applying should contact Dr. Matt Hamilton-Sutherland, Trainee Coordinator and Assistant Chief, at 503-220-8262, x57253 or by email, at [Matthew.Hamilton-Sutherland2@va.gov](mailto:Matthew.Hamilton-Sutherland2@va.gov).

If you would like clarification or further information regarding the clinical rotations, please contact Dr. Michael Sullivan at 503-220-8262, x33497, or by email, at <mailto:michael.sullivan6@va.gov>.

Applicants should submit a cover letter stating interest and career goals, curriculum vitae, unofficial undergraduate and graduate transcripts, and three letters of recommendation. Please use the [VA Letter of Recommendation SLP Form](#) that is available on our website. At least one recommendation should be from a clinical supervisor and one from a clinical instructor. An academic and clinical professor can speak to both areas, if applicable. Please concatenate all documents into a single .pdf, and “Save as” as an Adobe Acrobat optimized file type to compress, or use an online .pdf compression program. Applications should be submitted to [Matthew.Hamilton-Sutherland2@va.gov](mailto:Matthew.Hamilton-Sutherland2@va.gov). (Note, the other VA forms listed on the website: Application for Assoc. Health Trainee, Form 306, National Rules of Behavior will be required upon selection for an externship).

Letters of recommendation can be emailed to Dr. Hamilton-Sutherland directly by the professor or can be included in the student’s application. If emailed, “Letter of Recommendation,” should be included in the subject line. The remainder of the application should be preferably emailed as a single .pdf file that contains all requested information and forms. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

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